Every Child Matters Every Day
At Officer Primary School we hold the following values – the four “R’s” for all members of the school community.

- RESPONSIBILITY
- RESPECT
- RESILIENCE
- RELATIONSHIPS

As a staff, we make a commitment in 2015 to make these core values part of our explicit teaching on a routine basis.
We invite parents as well to engage in teaching and living by these values.

Date: Friday 22nd May, 2015

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Friends of OPS;

BOOK CHARACTER PARADE AND GRANDPARENTS MORNING TEA
Staff and students were excited by the great number of grandparents and other special people who attended our Book Character Parade and special morning tea on Wednesday. The students looked fantastic in their costumes and enjoyed being able to show their special visitors around the school, including a visit to the Book Fair. Thank you to families for their positive feedback – this made our day!

OHSC Program
As you will be aware the school has been in discussions with organisations who expressed an interest in providing an OSHC program to families at our school.
Following an extensive process I can inform you that OSHClub has been appointed as the new OSHC provider for our school community. OSHClub has been appointed for an initial period of two years.

OSHClub have been running Outside School Hours Care programs for over 10 years and provide the service for over 200 schools. OSHClub’s programs are individually tailored to meet the schools’ and families needs, delivered to a high standard.

The new fee structure for the OSHC program from the beginning of term three will be:
Before care $19 and After care $22
The fees have been reduced from a current level of $20 and $26 respectively.
There is no extra cost for casual bookings, no annual registration fee for students, and no out of pocket fees for cancellations if 24 hours notice is provided. A late booking fee of $3.30 does apply for bookings made at the last minute, eg on the same day as the session.

It has also been agreed that fees will remain at this level until the beginning of the 2017 school year.
Care is a significant expenditure item for many families within our community and OSHClub have reduced the costs significantly for our families. The school will also benefit from an annual payment from OSHClub that will defray current costs such as utilities, and contribute to the maintenance and improvement of the building and surrounds.

OSHClub have also committed to providing an improved space for OSHC, so you will see improvement to the current OSHC area.
Bookings will be open from Wednesday 27th May for term three. Enrol and book at www.oshclub.com.au.
Vacation Care will not be available on our site, but interested families will be able to access programs run at Pakenham Springs and Beaconsfield Primary Schools as in the past. Vacation Care sessions will be available from $60 per day. Enrolment and bookings for these programs will be open from Wednesday 27th May through the OSCHlub website at www.oshclub.com.au

I will keep the school community informed as we move through the transition process and handover from Cardinia Shire to OSHClub in the coming weeks. OSHClub will be providing information and promoting their service in the near future, in particular, vacation care for the upcoming June break.

CAFÉ READING PARENT INFORMATION SESSION
Families are reminded that Lynda Harris will be presenting a CAFÉ Reading information session for parents after school on Tuesday 26th May. If you would like to learn more about this program and how you can support your child at home with their reading please consider attending this session. To register your attendance return the reply slip on the notice sent home last week or contact our school administration. Care arrangements are available for preschool and school aged children.

CAMS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND
The Victorian Government has announced $148.3 million over four years for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF), to ensure all eligible students are able to participate in school trips and sporting activities.
Families holding a valid means-tested concession card will be eligible to apply. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. A payment of $125 for primary students and $225 for secondary school students will be paid directly to the school to be used towards camps, sports and excursion costs for the benefit of the student. Eligible families will need to apply for the CSEF at their child’s school with applications to be entered by the school administration onto a web-based system. I would strongly encourage eligible families to read the information provided with this newsletter and complete and return the application form to the school.

‘Enjoy your weekend!

Regards
Lynne Brenner
Principal

Attached are photos of our Grandparents and students dressed up for education week

CAR RAFFLE
Just a reminder the tickets for the car raffle were due back today.
Please send them to school as soon as possible.
Remember we are accountable for all tickets, so they need to be sent back whether they have been sold or not.
Thank You

SUBWAY LUNCHES
Wednesday June 3rd is the next Subway lunch day. Please have your orders in before the bell on Wednesday morning.

Envelopes are available from the office.
A big thank you Tracey Idzes, Samantha Thompson, Angela Wright, Lisa Budick, Joanne Thompson, Belinda Kent, Sarah Sudweeks & Sarah Fendyk who have volunteered to help out at the fete on Sunday 25th October. We still need more volunteers to help out on the day. If you or a family member can spare a couple of hours, please complete the slip below and return it to the office. Thank you.

Don’t forget if you’re out shopping for your sporting needs, the school receives a 5% kickback from Amart Sports in Fountain Gate. If you haven’t signed up yet it only takes a few minutes either online or in the store. Make sure you select Officer Primary School.

Book club orders are due by 9 am Friday 29th May.

Did you know

Scholastic Book Club gives reward points (20% of our total order) to the school. These points are then spent by the school on much needed library and classroom books.

Parents & Friends are holding a Fun & Fitness Athon as our term 2 fundraiser. Sponsorship forms and more information will be sent home next week.

Our next Parent & Friends meeting is on Tuesday 26th May at 9.15am. All new members welcome

Fete Volunteer

Name:
Contact No:
Childs Name:
Childs Class:
I can help (please tick) between 10.30-1  □ or 1-3.30 □ or either time □
I am unable to help between those times but can help between _____________________________
Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Closing Date
You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 26 June 2015.

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
CSEF Application Form

**School REF ID**

**Parent/legal guardian details**
Surname
First name
Address
Town/suburb State Postcode
Contact number

Centrelink pensioner concession  OR  Health care card number (CRN)

Foster parent*  OR  Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

**Student details**

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<th>Child's surname</th>
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I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (the department) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- the department will use information I have provided to the DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to the DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid unless I withdraw it by contacting the school or the department.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from the department and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- Some personal information may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services, for the purpose of evaluation and monitoring of concession card services.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant __________________________ Date   /   /   

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CSEF eligibility
Below is the criteria used to determine a student’s eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 - Eligibility
To be eligible for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term two, or;
- on the first day of Term three;

1. Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR

2. Be a temporary foster parent, and;
3. Submit an application to the school by the due date.

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria
School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date
CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian’s concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term two (13 April 2015) or term three (13 July 2015).

Payment amounts
CSEF payment amount
The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: $125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: $225 per year.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student’s date of birth. For more information, see: [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

How to complete the application form
NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.
   Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your Centrelink card - unless you are claiming as a Foster Parent or Veterans Affairs Pensioner. You will also need to provide your Centrelink card to the school.
   If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, tick the appropriate box. In this case, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
   The CSEF payment is paid directly to your child’s school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
   - enter SURNAME AND FIRST NAMES in full.
   - enter the DATE OF BIRTH e.g. 15/09/2008.
   - enter the YEAR LEVEL, unless the student is ungraded, e.g. attending a Special School or language Centre, then enter ‘UNGRADED’ in the YEAR LEVEL column.

3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.
Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.